

TRIBUTE TO JOHNSON COUNTY,
KANSAS, DISTRICT ATTORNEY

HON. DENNIS MOORE

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 25, 2005

Mr. MOORE of Kansas. Mr. Speaker, for 12 years, I had the honor of serving as Johnson County District Attorney. I was proud of the accomplishments of our office during my tenure, including establishing the first Victim Assistance Unit, and beginning programs to protect the victims of family violence—spouse abuse and child abuse.

When I left office to enter private practice, one of my Assistant District Attorneys, Paul Morrison, was elected and was sworn in as Johnson County District Attorney in 1989. This year Paul is celebrating 25 years of working in the Johnson County District Attorney's office, the last 16 as District Attorney.

As my Assistant D.A., Paul headed up our county's narcotics prosecution efforts, and tried many homicide cases. As District Attorney, he and his office have been tough, but fair. His professionalism is unquestioned. Paul has continued the tradition of personally prosecuting many of Johnson County's most difficult and serious cases. During his 25 years as a prosecutor, Paul has tried over 100 jury trials, including many complex homicide cases. Among the accomplishments during his years as D.A., Paul has established a gang task force, successfully promoted "hard 40" legislation to increase sentences for murder, and helped establish D.A.R.E. programs in our county.

All of Paul's friends enjoyed this story: two years ago, on his 49th birthday, Paul was driving down a suburban street when he witnessed a burglary. Paul followed one of the suspects in his car, and ended up chasing him down on foot. Two youths were charged with burglary, theft and possession of alcohol.

Paul is a past president of the Kansas County and District Attorneys Association and of the Johnson County Bar Foundation. He is a past recipient of the Clarence M. Kelly Award for Excellent in Criminal Justice Administration in Kansas City, and was named 2001 Prosecutor of the Year by the Kansas County and District Attorneys Association.

Paul has actively supported community organizations, serving as board president of Sunflower House and Safehome, Inc., two organizations that began during my term as D.A. Paul has also been active in the Metropolitan Organization to Counter Sexual Assault (MOCSA), where he served on the board and chaired the Johnson County Advisory Council. He has also chaired the Johnson County United Way campaign.

Paul and his wife Joyce are the proud parents of three children, and are active in their church, Good Shepherd Catholic Church in Shawnee, Kansas.

Mr. Speaker, on Friday, June 3rd, a reception in the Johnson County Courthouse will celebrate Paul Morrison's career in the District Attorney's office. Although I am unable to attend, I am proud of Paul and I want to recognize my friend for devoting his career to protecting our families and our community. The citizens of Johnson County hope his career continues for many more productive years.

RECOGNIZING WILLIAM "BILL"
BROOKS

HON. ALBERT RUSSELL WYNN

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 25, 2005

Mr. WYNN. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I rise today to recognize William "Bill" Brooks on his retirement as a member of the Board of Directors of the National Association of Federal Credit Unions (NAFCU). A native of Maryland, Mr. Brooks has served on the Board of Directors of NAFCU since 1996, and with 28 years of experience in the credit union industry I know that his presence will be sorely missed by NAFCU.

Mr. Brooks began his credit union career in 1976, working as an Examiner with the National Credit Union Administration (NCUA). He later moved on to the Government Printing Office Federal Credit Union, where he served as President/CEO. After a short period working as a CPA, Mr. Brooks took a position as President/CEO of Lafayette Federal Credit Union. Today, he serves as the President/CEO of First Combined Community Federal Credit Union, located in Kensington, Maryland.

Mr. Brooks is also heavily involved in the Credit Union Cherry Blossom Run, which benefits the Children's Miracle Network. Several years ago, after the race lost its sponsor and needed a new one, Mr. Brooks was the driving force behind getting credit union sponsorship of the race and establishing a partnership with the Children's Miracle Network. He is Chairman Emeritus of the Credit Union Miracle Day, Inc. Board of Directors. This year, the event raised \$400,000 in donations, and to date, the run has raised over \$1 million in donations for the Children's Miracle Network.

I congratulate Mr. Brooks on his longtime service to NAFCU, and to the entire credit union community. While this marks the end of his time at NAFCU, I am certain it also marks a beginning for some new activity to which he will no doubt tirelessly devote himself. Congratulations on your retirement from the NAFCU Board, Mr. Brooks.

RECOGNIZING THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF ANN R. MCNAIR IN SUPPORT OF AMERICA'S EXPLORATION OF SPACE

HON. TERRY EVERETT

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 25, 2005

Mr. EVERETT. Mr. Speaker, I would like to recognize the efforts of Ann R. McNair, who serves as the Director of the Mission Operations Laboratory in the Engineering Directorate, Marshall Space Flight Center, Huntsville, Alabama.

A native of Moundville, Alabama, Ms. McNair is a graduate of the University of Alabama where she earned a Bachelor of Science in Mathematics and Physics. Ms. McNair accepted an engineering position with the Army in 1958 and was transferred with the von Braun team to NASA in July 1960 when that group became the nucleus for the George C. Marshall Space Flight Center in Huntsville, Alabama.

Ms. McNair is responsible for the expert technical and programmatic direction of the operations ground support facilities, including operational control, engineering, and training for all programs supported at the Huntsville Operations Support Center. Her work encompasses the Payload Operations Integration Center (POIC) for International Space Systems, the U.S. Payload Control Center for International Space Systems, and the U.S. Operations for International Space Systems. Additionally, Ms. McNair has been involved in the development, implementation, and verification of Chandra Operations Control Center and deployment for a remote non-NASA location, the Smithsonian Astronomical Observatory at Cambridge, Massachusetts—a first for NASA.

Ms. McNair has authored several technical papers and has been recognized with numerous awards, including the NASA Exceptional Service Medal in 1973 and 1989 as well as the NASA Exceptional Achievement medal in 1998. She has also been selected as a member of the 1998 SES Center Development Program.

I join with Ms. McNair's family, friends, and the state of Alabama in honoring, the public service of Ms. Ann R. McNair and congratulate her on an outstanding career.

STEM CELL RESEARCH
ENHANCEMENT ACT OF 2005

HON. MICHAEL E. CAPUANO

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 25, 2005

Mr. CAPUANO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to express my strong support for H.R. 810—the Stem Cell Research and Enhancement Act.

I want to make it clear that the type of scientific research some in this chamber are trying to prevent will occur. It is occurring as we speak—all around the world.

However, we face a substantial threat that in this new field, with all of its promise and potential, America will be left behind. If our current political leadership continues to restrict research as other countries embrace it—we risk losing not only our research edge, but also our scientists. American scientists will pursue their research in places like Korea and Israel, and international scientists will no longer come to America as they have for generations . . . people like Einstein and Fermi, just to name two.

Make no mistake—as a result of the restrictive policies of this Congress and the current Administration, many companies may not invest in this research here in America. However, American companies will make sure that they have a piece of this business by investing in foreign countries where the basic research has been performed, scientists have perfected the techniques, and the government is welcoming to their industry, not hostile to it. Private industry will look for a place to make these investments because the chance that this research could produce cures for many devastating diseases seems very good not only to scientists, but also to business leaders.

It is simple: There is no question that this research will occur; there is no question that this research will result in scientific breakthroughs; there is no question that this science